There is scarcely another species of tortoise which stands so completely alone in the peculiarity of its form as this. Although agreeing with some other Indian species in the character of its sternum, which is perfectly flat in the centre, and almost carinated at the sides, as well as in the entireness of the margin, it differs from these and from all other fluviatile species in the elevation of the upper shell. It is considerably raised in the centre, and descends in a straight line to the margin on each side; so that lines drawn from the central ridge to the margin, and across from one side of the margin to the other, would form nearly a rectangular triangle, of which the latter is the hypothenuse. The carina on the three first vertebral plates is very prominent, and terminates, at the posterior part of the third, in a prominent spine. There is also a slight carina on the two hinder vertebral plates in some specimens. The resemblance which the shell bears to the roof of a house, suggested the specific name *Tectum*, which Mr. Gray has, in his Synopsis Reptilium, misquoted "*tecta*," covered, or, as he has translated it, "*tented*."

It is now several years since I first became possessed of a specimen of this species. Since that time I have obtained six or eight dried specimens, and two living ones, which, however, would not feed, and died after they had been in this country a few months. Amongst the extensive collection of drawings which General Hardwicke had formed in India, and which exhibits a splendid example of zeal and liberality in the pursuit of natural science, was one of this species, taken from the life, which has since been published in the Illustrations of Indian Zoology. This representation is very faulty in the drawing, and the colours are by far too bright.

It may perhaps be worth mentioning, that several intestinal worms, of the genus *Ascaris*, passed from one of the individuals which I possessed. They are about an inch and half in length, and rather slender. I know of but one other instance of a tortoise being infested by these parasites.